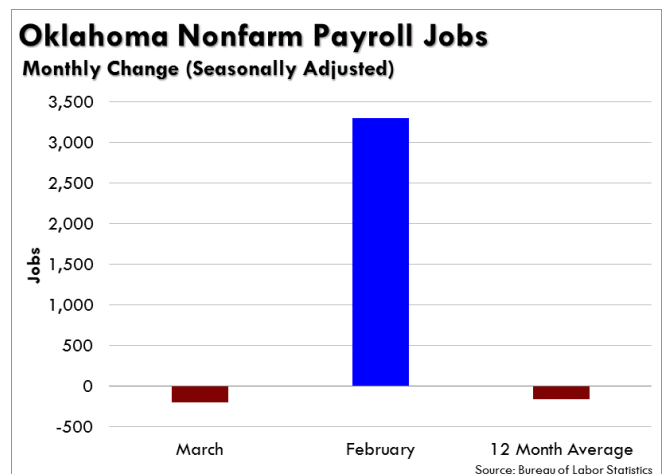
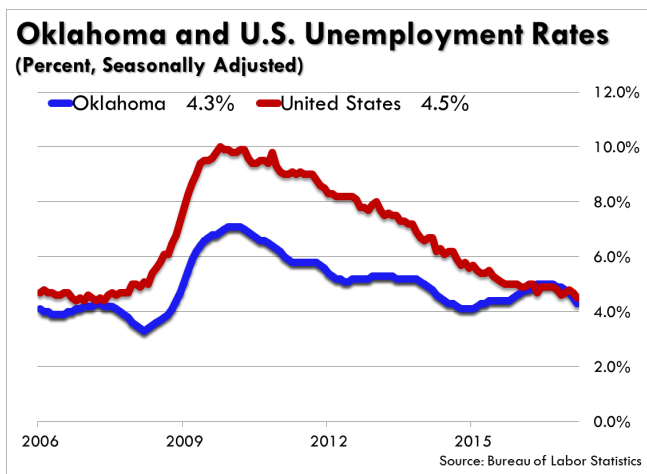


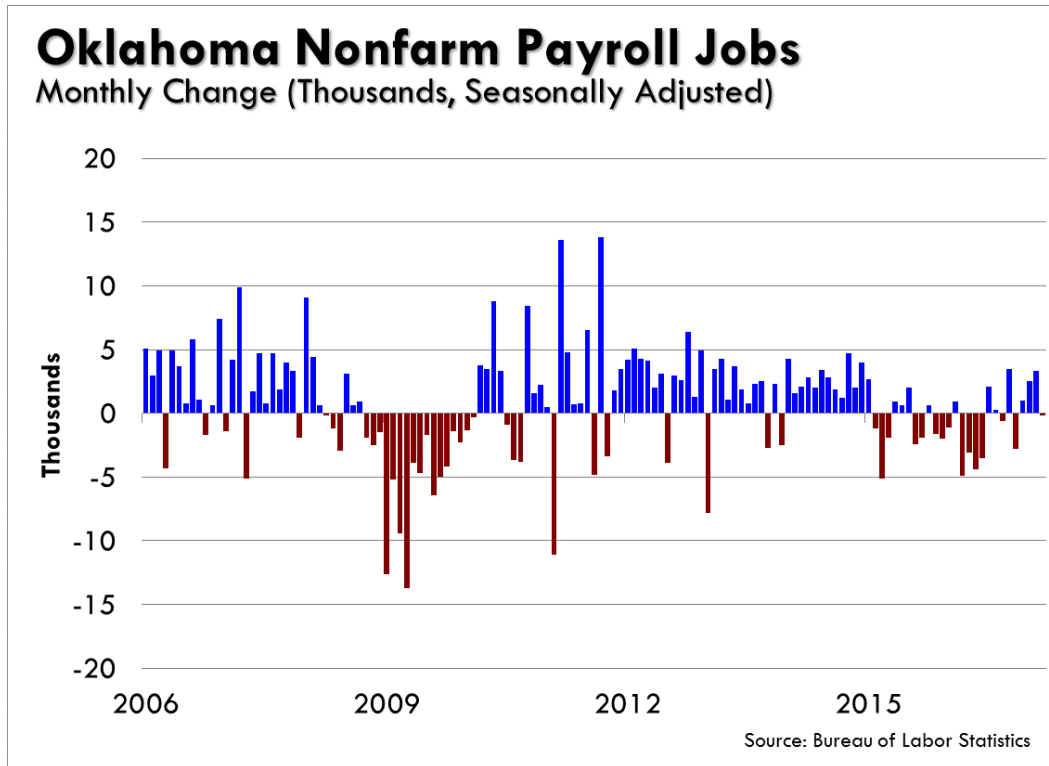


April 23, 2017

Summary

- **Oklahoma lost 200 jobs and the unemployment rate declined by 0.2 percentage point to 4.3 percent in March** according to Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) data.
- **Over the past twelve months, Oklahoma lost 1,900 jobs** and the unemployment rate fell by 0.5 percentage point from 4.8 percent.
- **In March, Oklahoma's private sector lost 200 jobs** and over the past twelve months it declined by 2,200 jobs.
- The number of **unemployed Oklahomans fell by 2,293 in March**, and over the past year 13,888 Oklahomans found jobs.
- Oklahoma's **labor force participation rate increased to 61.2 percent** from 61.1 percent in March. Since last year, the labor force participation rate fell 0.2 percentage point.
- The national unemployment rate **declined by 0.2 percentage point to 4.5 percent in March**. State employment and unemployment data for April is scheduled for release on May 19, 2017. The national employment situation report for April will be released on Friday, May 5, 2017.





Oklahoma Payroll Employment

Oklahoma lost 200 jobs, or 0.01 percent, on a seasonally adjusted basis during March. In the prior month, Oklahoma added 3,300 jobs. Over the past twelve months, nonfarm payrolls in Oklahoma declined by 1,900, or 0.11 percent. Oklahoma nonfarm payroll employment has increased in 6 of the past 12 months.

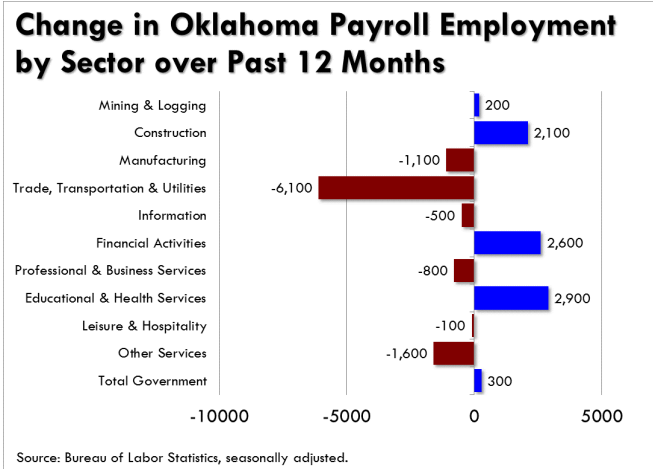
Nationally, nonfarm payrolls increased by 98,000 jobs in March, or 0.07 percent. Over the 12-month period ending March 2017, nonfarm payrolls grew by 2,185,000 jobs, or 1.52 percent. Oklahoma ranks 40th among the 50 states and the District of Columbia for percentage gain in nonfarm payroll employment over the past 12 months.

During March, Oklahoma's private-sector lost 200 jobs, or 0.02 percent. The private-sector in Oklahoma added 3,100 jobs in the prior month. Over the past twelve months, private-sector payrolls in Oklahoma declined by 2,200, or 0.17 percent. Oklahoma private-sector payroll employment has increased in 5 of the past 12 months.

Nationally, private-sector payroll jobs increased by 89,000 jobs in March, or 0.07 percent. Over the past 12 months, the nation's economy has added 2,033,000 jobs in the private-sector, an increase of 1.67 percent. Oklahoma ranks 34th among the 50 states and the District of Columbia for percentage gain in private-sector payroll employment over the past 12 months.

The best performing sectors on a seasonally adjusted basis during March were Mining & Logging (+2,000) and Leisure & Hospitality (+1,000). The poorest performing sectors during the month were Construction (-1,600) and Trade, Transportation & Utilities (-1,500).

The best performing sectors during the last twelve months were Educational & Health Services (+2,900) and Financial Activities (+2,600). The poorest performing sectors during the last twelve months were Trade, Transportation & Utilities (-6,100) and Other Services (-1,600).



Oklahoma Labor Force Statistics

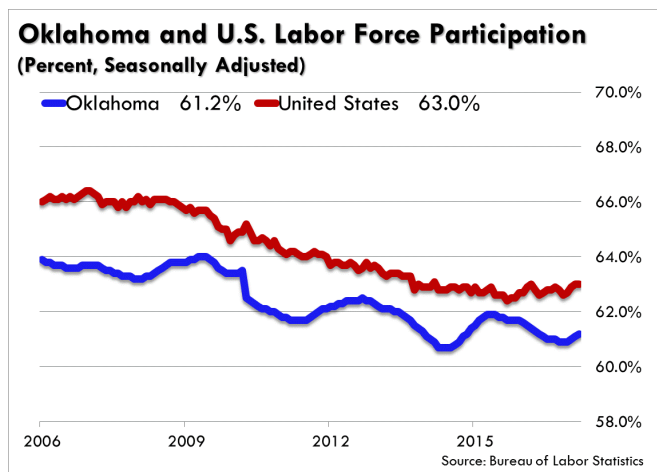
Labor Force Participation

The labor force participation rate in Oklahoma rose to 61.2 percent in March from 61.1 percent the prior month. Among the 50 states and the District of Columbia, 38 have a higher labor force participation rate than Oklahoma. The labor force participation rate in Oklahoma is unchanged from a year earlier. The labor force participation rate is the percentage of the civilian noninstitutionalized population age 16 and older who are employed or actively looking for work.

The 10-year high for the labor force participation rate in Oklahoma was 64.0 percent in June 2009. The series high for the labor force participation rate in Oklahoma occurred in June 1986 when the labor force participation rate hit 65.9 percent. The 10-year low for the labor force participation rate was 60.7 percent in July 2014. The series low for the labor force participation rate occurred in November 1976 when the labor force participation rate hit 58.7 percent. The national labor force participation rate was unchanged at 63.0 percent, but remains near its 38-year low of 62.4 percent.

Employment-to-Population Ratio

The employment-to-population ratio, or the percentage of the Oklahoma civilian noninstitutionalized population 16 years and older counted as employed, rose to 58.5 percent in March from 58.3 percent the prior



month. Among the 50 states and the District of Columbia, 38 have higher employment-to-population ratios than Oklahoma. The employment-to-population ratio in Oklahoma is unchanged from a year earlier.

The 10-year high for the employment-to-population ratio in Oklahoma was 61.3 percent in September 2008. The series high for the employment-to-population ratio in Oklahoma occurred in March 2001 when the employment-to-population ratio hit 62.5 percent. The 10-year low for the employment-to-population ratio was 57.9 percent in December 2016. The series low for the employment-to-population ratio occurred in July 1976 when the employment-to-population ratio was 55.3 percent.

The national employment-to-population ratio rose by 0.1 percentage point to 60.1 percent in March. That rate was 0.2 percentage point higher than a year earlier. The all-time high for the employment-to-population ratio was 64.7 in April 2000. The 10-year high for the employment-to-population ratio was 63.4 percent in December 2006. The recent low occurred in October 2013 when the employment-to-population ratio dipped to 58.2 percent. The last time the employment-to-population ratio posted a reading lower than 58.2 percent was July 1983.

